

[57] Abstract

5 The invention relates to a method and apparatus for scheduling
transmission link bandwidth between packet-switched data
flows so that a desired CoS (Class of Service) is provided with
an ability to utilize the instantaneously available bandwidth of a
10 guaranteed minimum data rate (Guaranteed Data Rate and Best
Effort) without compromising the operation of such classes that
have no guaranteed lower bound of data rate, but instead, have
the service implemented by the utilization of the instantaneously
available bandwidth (Best Effort). The invention is based
15 utilizing in the scheduler control, not only the information
indicating the class of service, but also the information
indicating the subgroup inside a class of service (e.g., drop
precedence). The information indicating the subgroup is
conventionally utilized only for congestion control purposes.

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(Fig. 4)